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This paper traces the evolution of Information Sharing Environment (ISE) policy-reforms and major ISE implementation milestones, all grounded in § 1016 of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act (IRTPA) of 2004, as amended, and related Executive Branch strategies and policies. It also provides insights into future implementation of the ISE.

By way of review, § 1016 established an ISE for counterterrorism, weapons of mass destruction, and homeland security information. Success in implementing the ISE is based on the principles of federated information management. The ISE is grounded in initiatives led by federal, state, local, tribal, territorial, international, and private sector partners, and is informed by the needs and requirements of ISE partners. At its heart the ISE is distributed and decentralized among these partners, coordinating under partner authorities, resources, policies, and mission equities, and supporting a networked model for secure and trusted collaboration against shared threats.